

PATENT  
0445-0302P

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: HAYASE et al. Conf.: 2692  
Appl. No.: 09/931,028 Group: 3761  
Filed: August 17, 2001 Examiner: C. L. ANDERSON  
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**Reply under 37 CFR § 1.111**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

*January 23, 2007*

Sir:

In reply to the Non-Final Office Action dated October 31, 2006, the following remarks are respectfully submitted in connection with the above-identified application.

The instant reply contains the following sections:

**Remarks begin on page 2.**